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PATENT
450100-04755

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

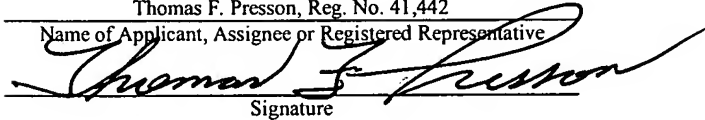
Applicants: Tsukasa HASHINO et al.
Serial No.: 10/659,231
Filed: September 10, 2003
For: ENCODING METHOD AND APPARATUS
Examiner: Rao, Anand Shashikant
Art Unit: 2621
Confirmation No.: 3477

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 12, 2007.

Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative



Signature

March 12, 2007

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c)
AND CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being

cited in an Office Action issued in the corresponding Japanese application on January 9, 2007.

So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

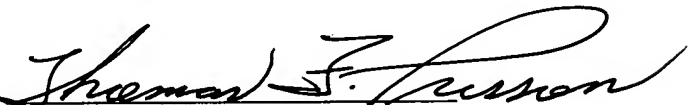
Applicants' undersigned attorney hereby certifies pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Applicants

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Based on Form PTO-1449 (3/90) LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 450100-04755	SERIAL NO. 10/659,231
	APPLICANT Tsukasa HASHINO et al.	
	FILING DATE September 10, 2003	GROUP 2621

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AL	5 153550	06/18/93	Japan			YES
	AM	6 292179	10/18/94	Japan			YES
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.